

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please amend the abstract as follows.

ABSTRACT

A resource management system identifies, tracks and corrects deficiencies in resources and predictions, decisions and actions in connection with buying, using, operation and sale of human, operating and manufacturing resources in an enterprise. Such a mechanism This allows the specification of the best solution for a specific application based on constraints, such as goals and objectives, and resources available in the enterprise. All possible combinations Combinations of resources of interest are assigned a deficiency cost, e.g., in terms of decreased life, increased costs, etc. ~~with respect~~, relative to a best in class combination or other solution. These combinations and associated costs are stored in a database. Each combination generally has one or more identified deficiencies and one or more corresponding corrective actions. The actual combination in use is specified by inputs to the system, including but not limited to enterprise resource planning systems, other systems for manufacturing and automation, inputs from line workers who enter data in checklists and data entry forms. Given a specification of the actual system in use, a cost of that system, ~~with respect~~ relative to a best in class system or optimal solution given specified constraints, and corrective actions may be retrieved from the database. By tracking how the actual combinations arise in the enterprise, as the result of decisions, predictions and actions, etc., accountability can be assigned. To track accountability, the system, in part, stores known suboptimal

combinations and assigns accountability to entities that implement these combinations.

Also all predictions, decisions and actions made using this system are tracked to allow for accountability when a deficient prediction, decision or action is made.